



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
20 November 2003

Language: English

Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 38
Question of Palestine

Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine: draft resolution

Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at the tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002,

Welcoming the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

Noting that it has been fifty-six years since the adoption of resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and thirty-six years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 57/110 of 3 December 2002,¹

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects,

Convinced that achieving a final and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

Aware that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

¹ A/58/416-S/2003/947.



Affirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Affirming also the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the territory occupied since 1967 and of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem, and calling upon Israel, the occupying Power, to stop all settlement activities and other actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, that are in violation of international law and of the letter and the spirit of the road map, and that may prejudice the outcome of future negotiations on permanent status,

Gravely concerned about the construction by Israel of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949, which could prejudice future negotiations and make the two-State solution physically impossible to implement and would cause further humanitarian hardship for the Palestinian people,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,² and the existing agreements concluded between the two sides, and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Welcoming the official presentation by the Quartet of the road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,³

Welcoming also initiatives and efforts undertaken by various regional and international non-governmental parties in pursuit of peace in the region,

Recognizing the urgent need to rebuild the damaged institutions of the Palestinian Authority,

Noting the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, and its positive contribution,

Welcoming the convening of international donor meetings, as well as the establishment of international mechanisms to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Expressing its grave concern over the tragic events in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000 and the continued deterioration of the situation, including the rising number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, the deepening humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people and the widespread destruction of Palestinian property and infrastructure, both private and public, including many institutions of the Palestinian Authority,

Expressing its grave concern also over the repeated incursions into Palestinian-controlled areas and the reoccupation of many Palestinian population centres by the Israeli occupying forces,

² See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

³ S/2003/529, annex.

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides,

Gravely concerned over the increased suffering and casualties on both the Palestinian and Israeli sides, the loss of confidence on both sides and the dire situation facing the Middle East peace process,

Aware of the urgent need for revitalized and active international involvement to overcome the current dangerous impasse in the peace process,

Affirming the urgent need for the parties to cooperate with all international efforts, including the efforts of the Quartet, to end the current tragic situation and to resume negotiations towards a final peace settlement,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects and of intensifying all efforts towards that end;

2. *Reaffirms also* its full support for the Middle East peace process, which began in Madrid, and the existing agreements between the Israeli and Palestinian sides, stresses the necessity for the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and welcomes in this regard the efforts of the Quartet;

3. *Welcomes* the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002;⁴

4. *Calls for* the implementation of the road map and stresses in this regard the importance and urgency of establishing a credible and effective third-party monitoring mechanism;

5. *Stresses* the necessity for a commitment to the vision of the two-State solution and the principle of land for peace, and the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 1397 (2002);

6. *Stresses also* the urgent need for Israel to stop and reverse the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, which is in contradiction to relevant provisions of international law;

7. *Stresses further* the need for a speedy end to the reoccupation of Palestinian population centres and for the complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

8. *Calls upon* the parties concerned, the Quartet and other interested parties to exert all efforts and undertake initiatives necessary to halt the deterioration of the situation and to reverse all measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000, and to ensure a successful and speedy resumption of the peace process and the conclusion of a final peaceful settlement;

9. *Stresses* the need for:

(a) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967;

⁴ A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

(b) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

10. *Also stresses* the need for resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

11. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority during this critical period to help alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people, rebuild the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and support the restructuring and reform of Palestinian institutions;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
26 November 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 38
Question of Palestine

Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine: revised draft resolution

Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at the tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002 and 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,

Welcoming the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

Noting that it has been fifty-six years since the adoption of resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and thirty-six years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967,

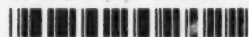
Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 57/110 of 3 December 2002,¹

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects,

Convinced that achieving a final and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

Aware that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

¹ A/58/416-S/2003/947.



Affirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Reaffirming the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the territory occupied since 1967 and of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem, and affirming that the construction by Israel of a wall inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, is in contravention of relevant provisions of international law,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,² and the existing agreements concluded between the two sides, and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Welcoming the endorsement by the Security Council, in resolution 1515 (2003), of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,² and stressing the need for its implementation and compliance with its provisions,

Noting with satisfaction the establishment of the Palestinian Authority, and recognizing the urgent need to rebuild, reform and strengthen its damaged institutions,

Welcoming the positive contribution of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority to the peace process, including in the framework of the activities of the Quartet,

Welcoming the convening of international donor meetings, as well as the establishment of international mechanisms to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Expressing its grave concern over the tragic events in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000 and the continued deterioration of the situation, including the rising number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, the deepening humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people and the widespread destruction of Palestinian property and infrastructure, both private and public, including many institutions of the Palestinian Authority,

Expressing its grave concern also over the repeated incursions into Palestinian-controlled areas and the reoccupation of many Palestinian population centres by the Israeli occupying forces,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides, including the suicide bombings and extrajudicial executions,

Gravely concerned over the increased suffering and casualties on both the Palestinian and Israeli sides, the loss of confidence on both sides and the dire situation facing the Middle East peace process,

² See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Aware of the urgent need for revitalized and active international involvement to support both parties in overcoming the current dangerous impasse in the peace process,

Affirming the urgent need for the parties to cooperate with all international efforts, including the efforts of the Quartet, to end the current tragic situation and to resume negotiations towards a final peace settlement,

Welcoming recent initiatives and efforts undertaken by civil society in pursuit of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects and of intensifying all efforts towards that end;

2. *Reaffirms also* its full support for the Middle East peace process, which began in Madrid, and the existing agreements between the Israeli and Palestinian sides, stresses the necessity for the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and welcomes in this regard the efforts of the Quartet;

3. *Welcomes* the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002;³

4. *Calls upon* both parties to fulfil their obligations in implementation of the road map by taking parallel and reciprocal steps in this regard, and stresses the importance and urgency of establishing a credible and effective third-party monitoring mechanism, including all members of the Quartet;

5. *Stresses* the necessity for a commitment to the vision of the two-State solution and the principle of land for peace, and the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002) and 1515 (2003);

6. *Also stresses* the need for a speedy end to the reoccupation of Palestinian population centres and for the complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

7. *Calls upon* the concerned parties, the Quartet and other interested parties to exert all efforts and undertake initiatives necessary to halt the deterioration of the situation and to reverse all measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000, and to ensure a successful and speedy resumption of the peace process and the conclusion of a final peaceful settlement;

8. *Stresses* the need for:

(a) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967;

(b) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

9. *Also stresses* the need for resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

³ A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

10. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority during this critical period to help alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people, rebuild the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and support the restructuring and reform of Palestinian institutions;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
3 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 38
Question of Palestine

Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine: revised draft resolution

Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Bangladesh, Mali, Namibia, Oman and Togo





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
21 November 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 37

The situation in the Middle East

Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine: draft resolution

Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

Recalling also its resolution 36/120 E of 10 December 1981 and all subsequent resolutions, including resolution 57/111 of 3 December 2002, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" and called upon those States which had established diplomatic missions in Jerusalem to withdraw such missions from the Holy City,

Expressing its grave concern at any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Reaffirming that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimension of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,¹

¹ A/58/278.



1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever;

2. *Deplores* the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980), and calls once more upon those States to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by the people of all religions and nationalities;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
26 November 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 37

The situation in the Middle East

Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine: draft resolution

Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

Recalling also its resolution 36/120 E of 10 December 1981 and all subsequent resolutions, including resolution 56/31 of 3 December 2001, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" and called upon those States which had established diplomatic missions in Jerusalem to withdraw such missions from the Holy City,

Expressing its grave concern at any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Reaffirming that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimension of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,¹

* Reissued for technical reasons.

¹ A/58/278.



1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever;

2. *Deplores* the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980), and calls once more upon those States to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by the people of all religions and nationalities;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
3 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 37

The situation in the Middle East

Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine: draft resolution

Jerusalem

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Bangladesh, Cuba, Indonesia, Oman, South Africa and Togo





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
21 November 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 37

The situation in the Middle East

Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine: draft resolution

The Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,¹

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,² to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

Stressing the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and other activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

¹ A/58/264.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.



Expressing grave concern over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Declares also* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907,³ and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,² continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

³ See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
3 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 37

The situation in the Middle East

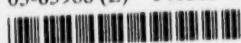
Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan,
Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal,
Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
and Palestine: draft resolution

The Syrian Golan

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Bangladesh, Cuba, Indonesia, Namibia, Oman, South Africa and Togo





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 November 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 50

**Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up
to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and
summits in the economic, social and related fields**

Morocco: * draft decision

Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development

The General Assembly,

Considering that the year 2004 will mark the tenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo,

Decides to devote one day, during its fifty-ninth session, to the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development.

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 November 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 26

**The situation in Central America: progress in
fashioning a region of peace, freedom,
democracy and development**

**Colombia, Mexico, Norway, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela:
draft resolution**

United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/161 of 16 December 2002, in which it decided to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 2003,

Taking into account the fact that the Government of Guatemala has reaffirmed its commitment to the full implementation of the peace agreements,

Underlining the fact that substantive aspects of the peace agreements have yet to be implemented and that the timetable for implementation and verification established by the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements extends through 2004,

Taking into account the request of the Government of Guatemala for an extension of the mandate of the Mission until the end of 2004, in view of the desirability of maintaining the Mission's presence during the first year of the new Government which will take office in January 2004,

Taking into account also the fact that civil society organizations in Guatemala and the international community expressed concerns about potential setbacks to implementation of the peace agreements should the Mission depart Guatemala before a new Government had taken office and demonstrated its commitment to the peace process,

Taking note of the fact that on 11 July 2003, under the auspices of the Organization of American States, representatives of the main political parties of Guatemala signed a declaration expressing support for the peace agreements as State accords that should be incorporated into government plans for the peace process,



Taking into account the eighth report of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements,¹

Taking into account also the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification,²

Stressing the positive role played by the Mission in support of the Guatemala peace process, and emphasizing the need for the Mission to continue to enjoy the full support of all parties concerned,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Mission³ and the recommendations contained therein,

1. *Welcomes* the eighth report of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements;¹

2. *Calls upon* the Government of Guatemala to maintain its commitment to the full implementation of the peace agreements;

3. *Calls upon* newly elected public officials to act on the commitments made by representatives of the main political parties in July 2003 to support the peace agreements as State accords that should be incorporated into government plans for the peace process;

4. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Mission³ aimed at ensuring that the Mission responds adequately to the demands of the peace process until 31 December 2004, in view of the many outstanding matters still to be addressed and the need to ensure the commitment of the new Government to the peace agreements;

5. *Notes* that, while in 2003 the Mission verified four broad areas of the peace agreements, in 2004 it will concentrate only on two areas: human rights and demilitarization and the strengthening of civilian power;

6. *Also notes* the results of the meeting of the Consultative Group for Guatemala, held in Guatemala City on 13 and 14 May 2003, at which all participants agreed that the peace agreements should remain Guatemala's essential road map for development;

7. *Further notes* that, while advances were verified in certain areas, such as the passage of legislation against discrimination in its many manifestations, the redeployment of military units, and the development of a national reparations programme for the victims of human rights violations committed during the armed conflict, progress in the implementation of the peace agreements in the past year fell short of expectations and was insufficient to inject new momentum into the peace process;

8. *Notes* that the consolidation of the peace-building process remains a significant challenge which will require greater political will, the involvement of all sectors of society and the continued engagement of the international community;

9. *Notes with concern* the climate of intimidation against justice officials, human rights defenders, social activists and journalists;

¹ A/58/267.

² A/53/928, annex.

³ A/58/262.

10. *Takes note* of the agreement reached in March 2003 by the Government of Guatemala and the Human Rights Ombudsman, with the support of civil society, and currently being revised, to create a commission for the investigation of illegal groups and clandestine security apparatuses;

11. *Calls upon* the Government to further reduce military spending and to allocate adequate budgets to those institutions and programmes that are given priority under the peace accords;

12. *Underlines* the importance of implementing fully the Agreement on Identity and Rights of Indigenous Peoples⁴ as a key to fighting discrimination and consolidating peace and equality in Guatemala, and highlights the need to implement fully the Agreement on Social and Economic Aspects and Agrarian Situation⁵ as a means of addressing the root causes of the armed conflict;

13. *Calls upon* the Government to implement the recommendations of the Commission for Historical Clarification, with a view to promoting national reconciliation, upholding the right to truth and providing redress for the victims of human rights abuses and violence committed during the thirty-six-year conflict;

14. *Invites* the international community and, in particular, the specialized agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, to continue to support the consolidation of the peace-building process, with the peace agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects, and stresses the continued importance of close cooperation among them in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Guatemala;

15. *Urges* the international community to support financially, through existing mechanisms of international cooperation, the strengthening of national capacities to ensure the consolidation of the peace process in Guatemala;

16. *Also urges* the international community to support financially the strengthening of the capacities of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as the Mission prepares to intensify its work to ensure specific follow-on by the entities of the United Nations system, as well as by members of the international community, within the framework of a general transition strategy;

17. *Stresses* that, while the Mission has played a key role in promoting the consolidation of peace and the observance of human rights and in verifying compliance with the revised timetable for the implementation of pending commitments under the peace agreements, the long-term success of the peace process depends on the capacities and renewed commitment to the peace agreement of Guatemalan institutions, both of the State and of civil society;

18. *Decides* to authorize a final renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 2004;

⁴ A/49/882-S/1995/256, annex.

⁵ A/50/956, annex.

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at the beginning of its fifty-ninth session, as well as a final report on the work of the Mission before the end of that session, together with the recommendations that he may deem appropriate.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
15 December 2003
English
Original: English and Spanish

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 26

The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela: revised draft resolution

United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/161 of 16 December 2002, in which it decided to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 2003,

Taking into account the fact that the Government of Guatemala has reaffirmed its commitment to the full implementation of the peace agreements,

Underlining the fact that substantive aspects of the peace agreements have yet to be implemented and that the timetable for implementation and verification established by the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements extends through 2004,

Taking into account the request of the Government of Guatemala for an extension of the mandate of the Mission until the end of 2004, in view of the desirability of maintaining the Mission's presence during the first year of the new Government, which will take office in January 2004,

Taking into account also the fact that civil society organizations in Guatemala and the international community expressed concerns about potential setbacks to implementation of the peace agreements should the Mission depart Guatemala before a new Government had taken office and demonstrated its commitment to the peace process,



Taking note of the fact that on 10 July 2003, under the auspices of the Organization of American States, representatives of the main political parties of Guatemala signed a declaration expressing support for the peace agreements as State accords that should be incorporated into government plans for the peace process,

Taking into account the eighth report of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements,¹

Taking into account also the fourteenth report of the Mission on human rights,²

Taking into account further the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification,³

Stressing the positive role played by the Mission in support of the Guatemala peace process, and emphasizing the need for the Mission to continue to enjoy the full support of all parties concerned,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Mission and the recommendations contained therein,

1. *Welcomes* the eighth report of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements;¹

2. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the fourteenth report of the United Nations Verification Mission on human rights;²

3. *Calls upon* the Government of Guatemala to maintain its commitment to the full implementation of the peace agreements;

4. *Also calls upon* newly elected public officials to act on the commitments made by representatives of the main political parties in July 2003 to support the peace agreements as State accords that should be incorporated into government plans for the peace process;

5. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Mission⁴ aimed at ensuring that the Mission responds adequately to the demands of the peace process until 31 December 2004, in view of the many outstanding matters still to be addressed and the need to ensure the commitment of the new Government to the peace agreements;

6. *Notes* that, while in 2003 the Mission verified four broad areas of the peace agreements, in 2004 it will concentrate only on two areas: human rights and demilitarization and the strengthening of civilian power;

7. *Also notes* the results of the meeting of the Consultative Group for Guatemala, held in Guatemala City on 13 and 14 May 2003, at which all participants agreed that the peace agreements should remain Guatemala's essential road map for development;

8. *Further notes* that, while advances were verified in certain areas, such as the passage of legislation against discrimination in its many manifestations, the redeployment of military units and the development of a national reparations

¹ A/58/267.

² A/58/566.

³ A/53/928, annex.

⁴ A/58/262.

programme for the victims of human rights violations committed during the armed conflict, progress in the implementation of the peace agreements in the past year fell short of expectations and was insufficient to inject new momentum into the peace process;

9. *Notes* that the consolidation of the peace-building process remains a significant challenge which will require greater political will, the involvement of all sectors of society and the continued engagement of the international community;

10. *Notes with concern* the climate of intimidation against justice officials, human rights defenders, social activists and journalists;

11. *Takes note* of the agreement reached in March 2003 by the Government of Guatemala and the Human Rights Ombudsman, with the support of civil society, and currently being revised, to create a Commission for the Investigation of Illegal Groups and Clandestine Security Apparatuses;

12. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the agreement signed on 1 December 2003 between the Government of Guatemala and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for the establishment of an Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights office in Guatemala with a mandate to monitor the human rights situation in the country and advise the Government on formulating and implementing policies, programmes and measures to promote and protect human rights;

13. *Calls upon* the Government to further reduce military spending and to allocate adequate budgets to those institutions and programmes that are given priority under the peace accords;

14. *Underlines* the importance of implementing fully the Agreement on Identity and Rights of Indigenous Peoples⁵ as a key to fighting discrimination and consolidating peace and equality in Guatemala, and highlights the need to implement fully the Agreement on Social and Economic Aspects and Agrarian Situation⁶ as a means of addressing the root causes of the armed conflict;

15. *Calls upon* the Government to implement the recommendations of the Commission for Historical Clarification, with a view to promoting national reconciliation, upholding the right to truth and providing redress for the victims of human rights abuses and violence committed during the thirty-six-year conflict;

16. *Invites* the international community, and in particular the specialized agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, to continue to support the consolidation of the peace-building process, with the peace agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects, and stresses the continued importance of close cooperation among them in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Guatemala;

17. *Urges* the international community to support financially, through existing mechanisms of international cooperation, the strengthening of national capacities to ensure the consolidation of the peace process in Guatemala;

⁵ A/49/882-S/1995/256, annex.

⁶ A/50/956, annex.

18. *Also urges* the international community to support financially the strengthening of the capacities of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including the future Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights office in Guatemala City, as the Mission prepares to intensify its work to ensure specific follow-on by the entities of the United Nations system, as well as by members of the international community, within the framework of a general transition strategy;

19. *Stresses* that, while the Mission has played a key role in promoting the consolidation of peace and the observance of human rights and in verifying compliance with the revised timetable for the implementation of pending commitments under the peace agreements, the long-term success of the peace process depends on the capacities and renewed commitment to the peace agreement of Guatemalan institutions, both of the State and of civil society;

20. *Requests* the United Nations system in Guatemala to continue to monitor and report annually, utilizing the methodology and indicators developed with the Mission, on the implementation of the Agreement on Social and Economic Aspects and the Agrarian Situation⁶ as part of the United Nations Development Programme's national human development report;

21. *Decides* to authorize a final renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 2004;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at the beginning of its fifty-ninth session, as well as a final report on the work of the Mission before the end of that session, together with the recommendations that he may deem appropriate.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
26 November 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 40 (b)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia: draft resolution

Special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Recalling also all resolutions of the Security Council and the statements by its President regarding the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Reaffirming the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and all States in the region,

Alarmed at the continuing plight of the civilian population, particularly in the eastern part of the country, and calling for their protection, taking into account the particular needs of women and girls,

Gravely concerned at the deteriorating humanitarian, economic and social situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in eastern Congo, and at the effect of the continued fighting on the inhabitants of the country, especially women and children,

Deeply concerned at the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic, in particular among women and girls,

Expressing its deep concern at the dire consequences of the conflict for the humanitarian and human rights situations in the country,



Gravely concerned at the continued illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as a source of further conflict, and reaffirming in this regard its commitment to respect the sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of the Congo over its natural resources,

Gravely concerned also at the negative impact of war on the promotion of sustainable development in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes region,

Deeply concerned at the continued extensive destruction of life and property, as well as the severe damage to infrastructure and the environment suffered by the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Bearing in mind the fact that the Democratic Republic of the Congo hosts thousands of refugees from neighbouring countries, which places a great burden on its limited resources, and expressing the hope that conditions will be created that will facilitate a safe and voluntary return of refugees,

Recalling that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a least developed country with severe economic and social problems arising from its weak economic infrastructure and aggravated by the ongoing conflict,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and security and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its damaged economy and in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹
2. *Welcomes* the signing of the Final Act of the inter-Congolese political negotiations on 2 April 2003 in Sun City, South Africa, which offers encouraging prospects for a peaceful resolution of the country's political crisis;
3. *Welcomes also* the swearing in of the Transitional Government, and encourages the effective establishment of all transitional institutions;
4. *Welcomes further* the declaration of Principles on Good-Neighbourly Relations and Cooperation between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda,² which marked the successful conclusion of the High-Level meeting held on 25 September 2003 under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations;
5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Republic of South Africa, the Republic of Angola, all the countries of Central Africa and of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in facilitating the adoption of these agreements;
6. *Urges* all parties concerned in the region to cease military activities and to cease any support for armed groups;
7. *Strongly condemns* the massacres of civilians that have been committed in Ituri and calls for those responsible to be brought to justice;

¹ A/58/273.

² A/58/428-S/2003/983, annex.

8. *Welcomes* the work of the Interim Emergency Multinational Force in Bunia led by the European Union, and the subsequent efforts of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to help secure the Ituri region;

9. *Welcomes also* the decision taken by all foreign parties to withdraw their troops fully from the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as the progress made in the implementation of those processes, stresses the importance of the withdrawals being completed in a transparent, orderly and verified manner, and calls upon the signatories to these agreements to implement them fully;

10. *Urges* all parties concerned in the region to cease any recruitment, training and use of child soldiers, contrary to international law, welcomes the initial steps taken by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to demobilize and reintegrate child soldiers, and urges the Government and all parties to continue their efforts in this context, and to take into account the particular needs of girl ex-combatants;

11. *Invites* donors to strengthen their support for the efforts of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to demobilize and repatriate armed groups currently in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to encourage the Transitional Government and all parties to the conflict to cooperate with the Organization Mission of the Congo in achieving a climate of security and trust; the support of neighbouring countries in this process is essential;

12. *Emphasizes* that the consolidation of peace and the resumption of economic activity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are inextricably linked, and calls for further international economic assistance in this regard;

13. *Encourages* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to pursue the implementation of economic reforms aimed at stabilizing the macroeconomic framework so that conditions can be created for sustainable growth;

14. *Stresses* the importance of the restoration of river traffic, welcomes in this regard the reopening of the Congo and the Oubangui rivers, and expresses its support for the establishment of a Congo River Basin Commission;

15. *Encourages* the continued cooperation of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo with the United Nations, its specialized agencies, international financial institutions and other organizations, including non-governmental organizations, in addressing the need for rehabilitation and reconstruction, and welcomes in this regard their renewed dialogue and cooperation;

16. *Renews its urgent appeal* to the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to keep under consideration the special needs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and stresses the need to mainstream an appropriate gender perspective within overall reconstruction efforts;

17. *Welcomes* the inclusion of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the heavily indebted poor countries;

18. *Urges* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to implement national comprehensive strategies to monitor and manage external liabilities, embedded in the domestic preconditions for debt sustainability, including sound macroeconomic and public resource management;

19. *Welcomes* initiatives that have been undertaken to reduce outstanding indebtedness, and invites further national and international measures in that direction, including, as appropriate, debt cancellation and other arrangements;

20. *Invites* the development partners to cover the funding shortfall of the Emergency Multisectoral Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Programme and to support civil service reform and efforts to reunify the country;

21. *Expresses its deep concern* at the worsening humanitarian situation throughout the country and the very high number of internally displaced persons in the eastern part and, in particular, in the Ituri region, and urges all parties to avoid further population displacement and to facilitate the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their places of origin;

22. *Also expresses its deep concern* especially at the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Ituri region, calls upon all Congolese parties on the ground to cooperate fully within the Ituri Pacification Commission with a view to reaching an agreement promptly, and calls upon all States in the region to bring their influence to bear on the Congolese parties so that this agreement can be reached as soon as possible;

23. *Urges* all parties to fully respect international humanitarian law and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the safety of United Nations and humanitarian personnel;

24. *Calls* for the reopening of the Kisangani-Kindu rail and river link in order to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, as well as access for humanitarian personnel;

25. *Calls upon* the international community to increase its support for humanitarian relief activities within the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

26. *Invites* Governments to continue to provide support to the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To ensure through his Special Representative for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who convenes the International Committee for Support to the Transition, the coordination of all the activities of the United Nations system in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the facilitation of the coordination with other national and international actors of activities in support of the transition, and welcomes to that effect the adoption of new coordination mechanisms aimed at ensuring a coherent and effective response to the multifaceted humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(b) To continue to consult urgently with regional leaders, in coordination with the Interim President of the African Union, on ways to bring about a peaceful and durable solution to the conflict, in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions;

(c) To continue to consult with regional leaders, in coordination with the Interim President of the African Union, in order to convene, when appropriate, an international conference on peace, security and development in Central Africa and

in the Great Lakes region, under the auspices of the United Nations and the African Union, to address the problems of the region in a comprehensive manner;

(d) To keep under review the economic situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to promoting participation in and support for a programme of financial and material assistance to the country to enable it to meet its urgent needs in terms of economic recovery and reconstruction;

(e) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
12 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 40 (b)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia: revised draft resolution

Special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Recalling also all resolutions of the Security Council and the statements by its President regarding the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Reaffirming the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and all States in the region,

Gravely concerned at the dire humanitarian, economic and social situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and at the effects on the inhabitants of the continued fighting in the eastern part, resulting in the continuing plight of the civilian population, and calling for its protection, taking into account the particular needs of women and girls,

Deeply concerned at the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and at its disproportionate effect on women and girls,

Expressing its deep concern at the dire consequences of the conflict for the humanitarian and human rights situations in the country, and at the continuing lack of sufficient access to vulnerable people,



Gravely concerned by the continued illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as a source of further conflict, and reaffirming in this regard its commitment to respect the sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of the Congo over its natural resources,

Gravely concerned also at the negative impact of war on the promotion of sustainable development in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes region,

Deeply concerned about the continued extensive destruction of life and property, as well as the severe damage to infrastructure and the environment suffered by the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Bearing in mind the fact that the Democratic Republic of the Congo hosts thousands of refugees from neighbouring countries, which places a great burden on its limited resources, and expressing the hope that conditions will be created that facilitate a safe and voluntary return of refugees,

Recalling that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a least developed country with severe economic and social problems arising from its weak economic infrastructure and aggravated by the ongoing conflict,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and security and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its damaged economy and in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹
2. *Welcomes* the conclusion of the Global and All-Inclusive Agreement on the Transition in the Democratic Republic of the Congo signed at Pretoria on 17 December 2002 and the subsequent establishment of the Government of National Unity and Transition, and encourages the effective establishment of all transitional institutions;
3. *Also welcomes* the declaration of Principles on Good-Neighbourly Relations and Cooperation between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda,² which marked the successful conclusion of the high-level meeting held on 25 September 2003 under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations;
4. *Further welcomes* the efforts of the Republic of South Africa, the Republic of Angola, and all the Central African countries, as well as the important role of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in facilitating the adoption of these agreements;
5. *Urges* all parties concerned in the region to cease military activities and to cease any support for armed groups, and rather to use their influence to support the transition and bring all within the dynamic of the transition;

¹ A/58/273.

² A/58/428-S/2003/983, annex.

6. *Strongly condemns* the acts of violence, including the latest massacres in Ituri, systematically perpetrated against civilians, including the massacres, as well as other atrocities and violations of international humanitarian law and human rights, in particular sexual violence against women and girls, stresses the need to bring to justice those responsible, including those at the command level, and urges all parties, including the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to take all necessary steps to prevent further violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular those committed against civilians;

7. *Welcomes* the work of the Interim Emergency Multinational Force in Bunia led by the European Union, and the subsequent efforts of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to help secure the Ituri region;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of an effective withdrawal of all foreign troops from the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

9. *Urges* all parties concerned in the region to cease any recruitment, training and use of child soldiers, which are contrary to international law, welcomes the initial steps taken by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to demobilize and reintegrate child soldiers, in particular through education, and urges the Government and all parties to continue their efforts in this context, and to take into account the particular needs of girl ex-combatants;

10. *Invites* donors to strengthen their support for the efforts of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to demobilize and repatriate armed groups currently in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to encourage the Transitional Government and all parties to the conflict to cooperate with the Organization Mission in achieving a climate of security and trust, the support of neighbouring countries in this process being essential;

11. *Emphasizes* that the consolidation of peace and the resumption of economic activity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are inextricably linked, and calls for further international economic assistance in this regard;

12. *Encourages* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to pursue the implementation of economic reforms aimed at stabilizing the macroeconomic framework so that conditions can be created for sustainable growth;

13. *Urges* all parties to fully respect international humanitarian law and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the safety of United Nations and humanitarian personnel;

14. *Calls upon* the international community to increase its support for humanitarian relief activities within the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

15. *Urges* all parties to permit free and unhindered movement of the population, which is essential, inter alia, to the resumption of the economic activities;

16. *Expresses its deep concern* especially at the very serious dire humanitarian situation in Ituri and calls on all Congolese parties on the ground to cooperate fully, in general, with the institutions of the transition, and, in particular, within the Ituri Pacification Commission;

17. *Also expresses its deep concern over the dire humanitarian situation throughout the country and the very high number of internally displaced persons in the eastern part and, in particular, in the Ituri region and urges all parties to avoid further population displacement and to facilitate the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their places of origin;*

18. *Stresses the importance of the restoration of river traffic, welcomes in this regard the reopening of the Congo and Oubangui rivers, and expresses its support for the establishment of a Congo River basin commission;*

19. *Calls for the reopening of the Kisangani-Kindu rail and river link to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance as well as the resupply access for humanitarian personnel;*

20. *Encourages the continued cooperation of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo with the United Nations, the specialized agencies, international financial institutions and other organizations, including non-governmental organizations, in addressing the need for rehabilitation and reconstruction, and welcomes in this regard their renewed dialogue and cooperation;*

21. *Renews its urgent appeal to the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to keep under consideration the special needs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and stresses the need to mainstream an appropriate gender perspective within overall reconstruction efforts;*

22. *Welcomes the inclusion of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative;*

23. *Urges the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to implement national comprehensive strategies to monitor and manage external liabilities, embedded in the domestic preconditions for debt sustainability, including sound macroeconomic and public resource management;*

24. *Welcomes initiatives that have been undertaken to reduce outstanding indebtedness, and invites further national and international measures in that direction, including, as appropriate, debt cancellation and other arrangements;*

25. *Invites the development partners to cover the funding shortfall of the Emergency Multisectoral Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Programme and support civil service reform and efforts to reunify the country;*

26. *Invites Governments to continue providing support to the Democratic Republic of the Congo;*

27. *Requests the Secretary-General;*

(a) *To ensure through his Special Representative for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who convenes the International Committee in Support of the Transition, the coordination of all the activities of the United Nations system in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the facilitation of the coordination with other national and international actors of activities in support of the transition, and welcomes to that effect the adoption of new coordination mechanisms aimed at ensuring a coherent and effective response to the multifaceted humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;*

(b) To continue to consult with regional leaders, in coordination with the President of the African Union, about ways to bring about a peaceful and durable solution to the conflict;

(c) To continue to consult with regional leaders, in coordination with the President of the African Union, in order to prepare an international conference on peace, security and development in Central Africa and in the Great Lakes region, under the auspices of the United Nations and the African Union, to address the problems of the region in a comprehensive manner;

(d) To keep under review the humanitarian and economic situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to promoting participation in and support for a programme of financial and material assistance to the country to enable it to meet urgent needs in terms of economic recovery and reconstruction;

(e) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
1 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda items 28 and 40 (f)

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian
and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations,
including special economic assistance: emergency
international assistance for peace, normalcy and
reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan**

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela: draft resolution

**Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and
reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation
in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace
and security**



A
The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/113 A of 6 December 2002 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999, 1378 (2001) of 14 November 2001, 1383 (2001) of 6 December 2001, 1390 (2002) of 16 January 2002, 1401 (2002) of 28 March 2002, 1453 (2002) of 24 December 2002 and 1510 (2003) of 13 October 2003,

Reaffirming its continued strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Reaffirming also its condemnation of all use of Afghan territory for terrorist activities, and welcoming the ongoing successful efforts of the Afghan people and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition to combat terrorism on their territory,

Convinced that the main responsibility for finding a political solution lies with the Afghan people themselves, expressing in this regard its full support for President Karzai and the Afghan Transitional Administration, and reaffirming its continued support for the implementation of the provisions of the agreement reached among various Afghan groups in Bonn, Germany, on 5 December 2001,¹ including the holding of free and fair elections in 2004,

Convinced also that a political consolidation aimed at the adoption of a pluralistic and democratic constitution and the establishment of a broad-based, multi-ethnic, fully representative and gender-sensitive government, which respects the rule of law, the human rights of all Afghans and the international obligations of Afghanistan and is committed to peace with all countries, can lead to durable peace and reconciliation,

Recognizing the urgent need for the creation of an effective and ethnically balanced Afghan national army, Ministry of Defence and national police force, and acknowledging the importance of the first steps taken in this regard by the Transitional Administration,

Reiterating that a fair and effective justice system that respects international norms and standards, including by ensuring the accountability of perpetrators of violations of human rights, remains of high importance,

Encouraging the Transitional Administration to consider initiating a process of national reconciliation,

¹ Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions (see S/2001/1154).

Taking note of the positive developments in Afghanistan in the past two years, in particular the return of a large number of refugees and internally displaced persons, the increased Afghan ownership as illustrated by the progress in implementing education and health programmes, the development of a comprehensive national budget, the introduction of the new currency, the publication of a draft text for a constitution, the beginning of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process and the reforms thus far in the security sector, and stressing that these processes should be expedited and carried through to completion,

Expressing its appreciation and strong support for the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General, his Special Representative for Afghanistan and the staff of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan to promote peace and stability in Afghanistan, stressing in particular in this regard the highly valuable role that the current Special Representative of the Secretary-General has played throughout the ongoing process,

Reiterating that the United Nations must continue to play its central and impartial role in the international efforts to assist the Afghan people in consolidating peace in Afghanistan and rebuilding their country and its institutions, as well as in efforts to provide humanitarian assistance, provide for rehabilitation and reconstruction and national capacity-building and facilitate the orderly return of refugees,

Recognizing the need for continued strong international commitment to humanitarian assistance and for programmes, under the ownership of the Transitional Administration, of rehabilitation and reconstruction, and noting that visible progress in this regard can further enhance the authority of the Transitional Administration and greatly contribute to the peace process,

Commending the international efforts to help the Transitional Administration to provide a secure environment in Afghanistan, and stressing the need for a coordinated approach across all parts of the security sector and the importance of a national army and police force that are ethnically balanced, professional and accountable to legitimate civilian authorities,

Welcoming in this regard the important role played by both the International Security Assistance Force and its respective lead nations in improving security conditions in and around Kabul and other parts of Afghanistan,

Recognizing the need for Afghanistan and its neighbours to work closely together to promote peace, security, stability and mutually beneficial relations, including through trade and investment, and welcoming therefore the signature of the Kabul Declaration on Good-Neighbourly Relations² on 22 December 2002 and the Trade, Transit and Investment Declaration on 22 September 2003,

Noting that, despite improvements in the security sector, the lack of security still remains the most serious challenge facing Afghanistan and Afghans today, expressing its deep concern over a number of recent security incidents in Afghanistan, including the terrorist attacks against United Nations staff, national and international humanitarian personnel and the International Security Assistance Force, noting the necessity of further enhancing the capacity of the Transitional

² S/2002/1416, annex.

45Administration to exercise its authority nationwide, and commending the steps already taken in that regard,

Deeply concerned about the continued increase in the cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs in Afghanistan, which is undermining stability and security, as well as the political and economic reconstruction of Afghanistan, and has dangerous repercussions in the region and far beyond, and welcoming in this context the commitment of the Transitional Administration to rid Afghanistan of this pernicious production and trade,

Recognizing that the social and economic development of Afghanistan, specifically the development of gainful and sustainable livelihoods in the formal productive sector, is an important condition for the successful implementation of the comprehensive national drug control strategy of the Transitional Administration,

Further recognizing the need for enhanced international cooperation and support to accelerate the implementation of the Afghan national drug control strategy, and looking forward in this regard to the international counter-narcotics conference in Kabul in 2004, to be hosted by the Transitional Administration, the United Nations and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;³
2. *Welcomes* the recent Security Council mission to Afghanistan and its report,⁴ which contains several positive recommendations;
3. *Stresses* that the fragile situation in Afghanistan poses a continuing risk to peace and stability in the region, and expresses its determination to further assist the efforts of the Transitional Administration to prevent the use of Afghan territory for terrorism;
4. *Reiterates its strong support* for the Transitional Administration in the full implementation of the Bonn Agreement;¹ endorses its priorities, as presented in the National Development Framework and national budget, which are the restoration of the economic infrastructure, the strengthening of the central Government, the constitutional process, the building of a national army and police force under civilian control, the verified and fair implementation of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, demining activities, the rebuilding of the justice system, respect for human rights, and combating illicit drug production and trafficking; and urges the international community to support the efforts in these areas;
5. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the authority of the Transitional Administration, facilitating security sector reform and reconstruction efforts throughout the country and providing a secure environment for the constitutional process and the preparations for the general elections, and in this regard welcomes the recent expansion of the International Security Assistance Force mandate in accordance with the Bonn Agreement, as well as the progressive establishment of provincial reconstruction teams in various parts of Afghanistan;

³ A/57/487-S/2002/1173.

⁴ S/2003/1074.

6. *Calls upon* all Afghan groups to renounce the use of violence, respect human rights and international humanitarian law, respect the authority of the Transitional Administration and implement fully the provisions of the Bonn Agreement;

7. *Welcomes* the role of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Afghanistan, including through the provision of expert advice to the Constitutional Commission, and encourages the Transitional Administration and the international community to continue to provide appropriate assistance and support to allow the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission to fulfil its mandate;

8. *Stresses* the fundamental importance for a peaceful, democratic Afghanistan of the upcoming constitutional Loya Jirga and elections in 2004, in accordance with the time frame set out in the Bonn Agreement for the creation of a representative government, and underscores the need for the broad and open participation of all Afghans, including women, in the political process in a secure environment;

9. *Reiterates* the importance of the full and equal participation of and representation by women in political, civil, economic, cultural and social life throughout the country, calls upon the Transitional Administration to protect and promote the equal rights of men and women, and notes in this respect the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by Afghanistan on 5 March 2003;

10. *Commends and strongly supports* the important role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the staff of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in support of efforts of the Transitional Administration to fully implement the Bonn Agreement, and endorses the concept of the Assistance Mission as a fully integrated Mission under the authority of the Special Representative and with a light international footprint;

11. *Calls upon* donor countries that pledged financial aid at the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, held in Tokyo on 21 and 22 January 2002, and that reiterated their pledges in Dubai on 21 September 2003, to fulfil their assumed commitments promptly, invites them to provide additional resources beyond those pledged so far, and also calls upon all Member States to provide humanitarian assistance and to support the Transitional Administration through measures in accordance with the national development budget published by the Transitional Administration;

12. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the Transitional Administration to coordinate assistance, to formulate a strategy for the long-term development of Afghanistan and to allocate sufficient funds to the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund;

13. *Calls upon* the signatories of the Kabul Declaration on Good-Neighbourly Relations² of 22 December 2002 to respect their commitments under the Declaration, and calls upon all other States to respect and support the implementation of its provisions and to promote regional stability;

14. *Welcomes* in this regard the signing of the Trade, Transit and Investment Declaration on 22 September 2003 as a further sign of the commitment of Afghanistan and its neighbours to closer regional cooperation;

15. *Calls upon* the members of the Tripartite Commission to redouble their efforts to support peace and security in the southern and south-eastern border areas of Afghanistan;

16. *Calls* for continued international assistance to the vast number of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons to facilitate their safe and orderly return and sustainable reintegration into society so as to contribute to the stability of the entire country;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Transitional Administration to respect fully the international obligations of Afghanistan with regard to narcotic drugs, and calls upon it to strengthen further its efforts to eliminate the annual poppy crop, as well as to efficiently enforce relevant national laws and regulations against narcotic drugs;

18. *Calls upon* the international community to assist the Transitional Administration in the implementation of its comprehensive national drug control strategy, aimed at eliminating illicit poppy cultivation, which continues to constitute a serious threat to the successful political and economic reconstruction of Afghanistan, including through support for increased law enforcement, crop substitution and other alternative livelihood and development programmes and capacity-building for drug control institutions;

19. *Supports* the fight against illicit trafficking of drugs and precursors within Afghanistan and in neighbouring States and countries along trafficking routes, including increased cooperation among them to strengthen anti-narcotic controls to curb the drug flow, and welcomes the presentation in Moscow on 29 October 2003 of the latest report of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme on drugs in Afghanistan;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every four months during its fifty-eighth session on the progress of the United Nations and the efforts of his Special Representative to promote peace in Afghanistan, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

B

Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/113 B of 6 December 2002 and all other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the agreement reached among various Afghan groups in Bonn, Germany, on 5 December 2001¹ and the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, held in Tokyo on 21 and 22 January 2002,

Expressing its grave concern about the continuing effects of decades of conflict in Afghanistan, which have resulted in massive loss of life, extensive human suffering, serious violations of human rights, destruction of property, serious damage to the economic and social infrastructure, refugee flows and other forcible displacements of large numbers of people,

Mindful that Afghanistan is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and that some parts of its territory continue to be affected by serious drought,

Noting the accession of Afghanistan to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,⁵

Remaining deeply concerned about the problem of millions of anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance, which constitutes a great danger for the civilian population and a major obstacle for the return of refugees and displaced populations and for the resumption of agricultural and other economic activities, the provision of humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts,

Welcoming the positive steps taken so far towards an improved situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms for many Afghans, in particular women and children, and commending in this regard the positive role played by the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and Afghan civil society organizations, while noting with grave concern, however, that there remain discriminatory practices that hinder the full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Expressing its deep concern about reports of violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law in parts of the country,

Reminding the Transitional Administration and all Afghan groups of their commitment to respect human rights in the country, as contained in the Bonn Agreement,

Reaffirming the importance of the safety and security of the humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel in Afghanistan, and alarmed by the increase in attacks on humanitarian personnel, including Afghan nationals, in parts of the country,

Noting with concern that the increase in such attacks has limited access to certain areas of Afghanistan and led to inadequate conditions for the delivery of aid for internally displaced persons and vulnerable sectors of the civilian population,

Recognizing that a secure environment is indispensable for the safe and effective delivery and distribution of humanitarian assistance and is a precondition for rehabilitation, reconstruction efforts and long-term development, and welcoming the expansion of the mandate of the International Security Assistance Force to allow it, as resources permit, to support the Afghan Transitional Administration and its successors in the maintenance of security in areas of Afghanistan outside Kabul and

⁵ See CD/1478.

its environs, so that the Afghan authorities, as well as the personnel of the United Nations and other international civilian personnel engaged, in particular, in reconstruction and humanitarian efforts, can operate in a secure environment, and to provide security assistance for the performance of other tasks in support of the Bonn Agreement,

Welcoming the ownership of the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts by the Transitional Administration through the National Development Framework and national budget,

Reiterating the importance of a seamless transition from humanitarian relief to rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan, and welcoming the important contribution that the integrated approach of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and of members of the donor community has made in this regard,

Expressing its appreciation to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan for their continued efforts in coordinating, planning and implementing humanitarian and other assistance in cooperation with the Transitional Administration,

Welcoming the return of large numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons, while noting with concern that displacement remains a widespread phenomenon and that the conditions in certain parts of Afghanistan are not yet conducive to safe and sustainable returns to places of origin,

Expressing gratitude to those countries that continue to host Afghan refugee populations, and at the same time calling once again upon all groups to continue to fulfil their obligations for the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons and to allow international access for their protection and care,

Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations system and to all States and international and non-governmental organizations whose international and local staff continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Afghanistan, as well as to the Secretary-General for mobilizing and coordinating the delivery of appropriate humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁶
2. *Stresses* that the responsibility for the solution of the humanitarian crisis lies above all with the Afghan people themselves, and urges them to continue their efforts to achieve national reconciliation;
3. *Urges* all Afghan groups to actively support the Transitional Administration in meeting the responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,⁵ to cooperate fully with the mine action programme coordinated by the United Nations and to execute the destruction of all existing stocks of landmines;
4. *Stresses* the coordinating role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan for the United Nations system in ensuring a seamless transition from humanitarian relief to rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan, including the cooperation of the United Nations system with other

⁶ A/57/410.

actors in the international community, in particular with the international financial institutions;

5. *Commends* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the work accomplished;

6. *Welcomes* the recent substantial contributions to the Law and Order Trust Fund, and at the same time regrets that the funding provided to the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund and the Law and Order Trust Fund, which were designed to contribute to the mobilization of international support to Afghanistan, remains inadequate;

7. *Urges* the international community to actively participate in and financially contribute to these rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and encourages the international community to channel assistance through the national development budget of the Afghan Transitional Administration and to focus attention on building the capacity of Afghans;

8. *Strongly condemns* the recent deliberate attacks and all other acts of violence and intimidation directed against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, and regrets the loss of life and physical harm suffered among such staff;

9. *Urges* the Transitional Administration and local authorities to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations and humanitarian personnel, as well as their safe and unimpeded access to all affected populations, and to protect the property of the United Nations and of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations;

10. *Notes* the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by Afghanistan on 5 March 2003, and at the same time strongly condemns once again continuing discrimination against women and girls, as well as against persons belonging to ethnic and religious groups, including minorities;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of actively involving all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes;

12. *Reminds* all Afghan groups of their commitment to the Bonn Agreement,¹ and calls upon them to respect fully the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with their obligations under international law, and to protect and promote the equal rights of women and men;

13. *Welcomes* the start of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process by the Transitional Administration and the efforts of the international observer group to verify the fairness of the process, and calls upon the international community to assist the Transitional Administration in these efforts;

14. *Welcomes also* in this regard the accession of the Transitional Administration on 24 September 2003 to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on

the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,⁷ and urges Afghan groups to refrain from the recruitment or use of children contrary to international standards, while stressing the importance of demobilizing and reintegrating child soldiers and other war-affected children;

15. *Emphasizes* the necessity of investigating allegations of violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law, including violations committed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, as well as against women and girls, of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with international law;

16. *Appeals* to the Transitional Administration and the international community to mainstream gender issues into all humanitarian assistance and future rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes and to actively promote the full and equal participation of and benefit to both women and men in respect of those programmes, underlining the importance of a senior gender adviser position in this context;

17. *Calls upon* the Transitional Administration to provide Afghan children with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, recognizing the special needs of girls, and to ensure their full access to those facilities;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, and reminds them of their obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees and the right to seek asylum;

19. *Calls upon* the Transitional Administration, acting with the support of the international community, to create the conditions for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons, welcomes in this respect the initiation of the National Area-Based Development Programme and the National Solidarity Programme, and calls upon the international community to provide adequate funding to these programmes, which, inter alia, assist in the resettlement of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons;

20. *Urges* donors to fulfil promptly the funding commitments made in Tokyo at the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan and reiterated in Dubai on 21 September 2003, and invites them to provide additional resources beyond those pledged so far;

21. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the Transitional Administration and Afghan civil society, all possible and necessary humanitarian, financial, technical and material assistance for the Afghan population, inter alia, a minimal degree of health care and health services in all parts of the country;

22. *Calls upon* the international community to continue and strengthen its coordination of humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, bearing in mind the role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan;

⁷ Resolution 54/263, annex I.

23. *Also calls upon* the international community to respond generously and without delay to the national development budget, as well as long-term interventions towards rehabilitation and reconstruction;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every four months during its fifty-eighth session on the progress of the United Nations and the efforts of his Special Representative to promote peace in Afghanistan, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan".



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
4 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda items 28 and 40 (f)

**The situation in Afghanistan and its implications
for international peace and security**

**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian
and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations,
including special economic assistance: emergency
international assistance for peace, normalcy and
reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan**

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela: draft resolution

**Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and
reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation
in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace
and security**

* Reissued for technical reasons.



A
The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/113 A of 6 December 2002 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999, 1378 (2001) of 14 November 2001, 1383 (2001) of 6 December 2001, 1390 (2002) of 16 January 2002, 1401 (2002) of 28 March 2002, 1453 (2002) of 24 December 2002 and 1510 (2003) of 13 October 2003,

Reaffirming its continued strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Reaffirming also its condemnation of all use of Afghan territory for terrorist activities, and welcoming the ongoing successful efforts of the Afghan people and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition to combat terrorism on their territory,

Convinced that the main responsibility for finding a political solution lies with the Afghan people themselves, expressing in this regard its full support for President Karzai and the Afghan Transitional Administration, and reaffirming its continued support for the implementation of the provisions of the agreement reached among various Afghan groups in Bonn, Germany, on 5 December 2001,¹ including the holding of free and fair elections in 2004,

Convinced also that a political consolidation aimed at the adoption of a pluralistic and democratic constitution and the establishment of a broad-based, multi-ethnic, fully representative and gender-sensitive government, which respects the rule of law, the human rights of all Afghans and the international obligations of Afghanistan and is committed to peace with all countries, can lead to durable peace and reconciliation,

Recognizing the urgent need for the creation of an effective and ethnically balanced Afghan national army, Ministry of Defence and national police force, and acknowledging the importance of the first steps taken in this regard by the Transitional Administration,

Reiterating that a fair and effective justice system that respects international norms and standards, including by ensuring the accountability of perpetrators of violations of human rights, remains of high importance,

Encouraging the Transitional Administration to consider initiating a process of national reconciliation,

¹ Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions (see S/2001/1154).

Taking note of the positive developments in Afghanistan in the past two years, in particular the return of a large number of refugees and internally displaced persons, the increased Afghan ownership as illustrated by the progress in implementing education and health programmes, the development of a comprehensive national budget, the introduction of the new currency, the publication of a draft text for a constitution, the beginning of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process and the reforms thus far in the security sector, and stressing that these processes should be expedited and carried through to completion,

Expressing its appreciation and strong support for the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General, his Special Representative for Afghanistan and the staff of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan to promote peace and stability in Afghanistan, stressing in particular in this regard the highly valuable role that the current Special Representative of the Secretary-General has played throughout the ongoing process,

Reiterating that the United Nations must continue to play its central and impartial role in the international efforts to assist the Afghan people in consolidating peace in Afghanistan and rebuilding their country and its institutions, as well as in efforts to provide humanitarian assistance, provide for rehabilitation and reconstruction and national capacity-building and facilitate the orderly return of refugees,

Recognizing the need for continued strong international commitment to humanitarian assistance and for programmes, under the ownership of the Transitional Administration, of rehabilitation and reconstruction, and noting that visible progress in this regard can further enhance the authority of the Transitional Administration and greatly contribute to the peace process,

Commending the international efforts to help the Transitional Administration to provide a secure environment in Afghanistan, and stressing the need for a coordinated approach across all parts of the security sector and the importance of a national army and police force that are ethnically balanced, professional and accountable to legitimate civilian authorities,

Welcoming in this regard the important role played by both the International Security Assistance Force and its respective lead nations in improving security conditions in and around Kabul and other parts of Afghanistan,

Recognizing the need for Afghanistan and its neighbours to work closely together to promote peace, security, stability and mutually beneficial relations, including through trade and investment, and welcoming therefore the signature of the Kabul Declaration on Good-Neighbourly Relations² on 22 December 2002 and the Trade, Transit and Investment Declaration on 22 September 2003,

Noting that, despite improvements in the security sector, the lack of security still remains the most serious challenge facing Afghanistan and Afghans today, expressing its deep concern over a number of recent security incidents in Afghanistan, including the terrorist attacks against United Nations staff, national and international humanitarian personnel and the International Security Assistance Force, noting the necessity of further enhancing the capacity of the Transitional

² S/2002/1416, annex.

Administration to exercise its authority nationwide, and commending the steps already taken in that regard,

Deeply concerned about the continued increase in the cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs in Afghanistan, which is undermining stability and security, as well as the political and economic reconstruction of Afghanistan, and has dangerous repercussions in the region and far beyond, and welcoming in this context the commitment of the Transitional Administration to rid Afghanistan of this pernicious production and trade,

Recognizing that the social and economic development of Afghanistan, specifically the development of gainful and sustainable livelihoods in the formal productive sector, is an important condition for the successful implementation of the comprehensive national drug control strategy of the Transitional Administration,

Further recognizing the need for enhanced international cooperation and support to accelerate the implementation of the Afghan national drug control strategy, and looking forward in this regard to the international counter-narcotics conference in Kabul in 2004, to be hosted by the Transitional Administration, the United Nations and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;³
2. *Welcomes* the recent Security Council mission to Afghanistan and its report,⁴ which contains several positive recommendations;
3. *Stresses* that the fragile situation in Afghanistan poses a continuing risk to peace and stability in the region, and expresses its determination to further assist the efforts of the Transitional Administration to prevent the use of Afghan territory for terrorism;
4. *Reiterates its strong support* for the Transitional Administration in the full implementation of the Bonn Agreement;¹ endorses its priorities, as presented in the National Development Framework and national budget, which are the restoration of the economic infrastructure, the strengthening of the central Government, the constitutional process, the building of a national army and police force under civilian control, the verified and fair implementation of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, demining activities, the rebuilding of the justice system, respect for human rights, and combating illicit drug production and trafficking; and urges the international community to support the efforts in these areas;
5. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the authority of the Transitional Administration, facilitating security sector reform and reconstruction efforts throughout the country and providing a secure environment for the constitutional process and the preparations for the general elections, and in this regard welcomes the recent expansion of the International Security Assistance Force mandate in accordance with the Bonn Agreement, as well as the progressive establishment of provincial reconstruction teams in various parts of Afghanistan;

³ A/58/616.

⁴ S/2003/1074.

6. *Calls upon* all Afghan groups to renounce the use of violence, respect human rights and international humanitarian law, respect the authority of the Transitional Administration and implement fully the provisions of the Bonn Agreement;

7. *Welcomes* the role of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Afghanistan, including through the provision of expert advice to the Constitutional Commission, and encourages the Transitional Administration and the international community to continue to provide appropriate assistance and support to allow the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission to fulfil its mandate;

8. *Stresses* the fundamental importance for a peaceful, democratic Afghanistan of the upcoming constitutional Loya Jirga and elections in 2004, in accordance with the time frame set out in the Bonn Agreement for the creation of a representative government, and underscores the need for the broad and open participation of all Afghans, including women, in the political process in a secure environment;

9. *Reiterates* the importance of the full and equal participation of and representation by women in political, civil, economic, cultural and social life throughout the country, calls upon the Transitional Administration to protect and promote the equal rights of men and women, and notes in this respect the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by Afghanistan on 5 March 2003;

10. *Commends and strongly supports* the important role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the staff of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in support of efforts of the Transitional Administration to fully implement the Bonn Agreement, and endorses the concept of the Assistance Mission as a fully integrated Mission under the authority of the Special Representative and with a light international footprint;

11. *Calls upon* donor countries to fulfil promptly their assumed commitments made at the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, held in Tokyo on 21 and 22 January 2002, and reiterated in Dubai on 21 September 2003, invites them to provide additional resources beyond those pledged so far, and also calls upon all Member States to provide humanitarian assistance and to support the Transitional Administration through measures in accordance with the national development budget published by the Transitional Administration;

12. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the Transitional Administration to coordinate assistance, to formulate a strategy for the long-term development of Afghanistan and to allocate sufficient funds to the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund;

13. *Calls upon* the signatories of the Kabul Declaration on Good-Neighbourly Relations² of 22 December 2002 to respect their commitments under the Declaration, and calls upon all other States to respect and support the implementation of its provisions and to promote regional stability;

14. *Welcomes* in this regard the signing of the Trade, Transit and Investment Declaration on 22 September 2003 as a further sign of the commitment of Afghanistan and its neighbours to closer regional cooperation;

15. *Calls upon* the members of the Tripartite Commission to redouble their efforts to support peace and security in the southern and south-eastern border areas of Afghanistan;

16. *Calls for* continued international assistance to the vast number of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons to facilitate their safe and orderly return and sustainable reintegration into society so as to contribute to the stability of the entire country;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Transitional Administration to respect fully the international obligations of Afghanistan with regard to narcotic drugs, and calls upon it to strengthen further its efforts to eliminate the annual poppy crop, as well as to efficiently enforce relevant national laws and regulations against narcotic drugs;

18. *Calls upon* the international community to assist the Transitional Administration in the implementation of its comprehensive national drug control strategy, aimed at eliminating illicit poppy cultivation, which continues to constitute a serious threat to the successful political and economic reconstruction of Afghanistan, including through support for increased law enforcement, crop substitution and other alternative livelihood and development programmes and capacity-building for drug control institutions;

19. *Supports* the fight against illicit trafficking of drugs and precursors within Afghanistan and in neighbouring States and countries along trafficking routes, including increased cooperation among them to strengthen anti-narcotic controls to curb the drug flow, and welcomes the presentation in Moscow on 29 October 2003 of the latest report of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme on drugs in Afghanistan;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every four months during its fifty-eighth session on the progress of the United Nations and the efforts of his Special Representative to promote peace in Afghanistan, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

B

Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/113 B of 6 December 2002 and all other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the agreement reached among various Afghan groups in Bonn, Germany, on 5 December 2001¹ and the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, held in Tokyo on 21 and 22 January 2002,

Expressing its grave concern about the continuing effects of decades of conflict in Afghanistan, which have resulted in massive loss of life, extensive human

suffering, serious violations of human rights, destruction of property, serious damage to the economic and social infrastructure, refugee flows and other forcible displacements of large numbers of people,

Mindful that Afghanistan is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and that some parts of its territory continue to be affected by serious drought,

Noting the accession of Afghanistan to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,⁵

Remaining deeply concerned about the problem of millions of anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance, which constitutes a great danger for the civilian population and a major obstacle for the return of refugees and displaced populations and for the resumption of agricultural and other economic activities, the provision of humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts,

Welcoming the positive steps taken so far towards an improved situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms for many Afghans, in particular women and children, and commending in this regard the positive role played by the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and Afghan civil society organizations, while noting with grave concern, however, that there remain discriminatory practices that hinder the full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Expressing its deep concern about reports of violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law in parts of the country,

Reminding the Transitional Administration and all Afghan groups of their commitment to respect human rights in the country, as contained in the Bonn Agreement,

Reaffirming the importance of the safety and security of the humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel in Afghanistan, and alarmed by the increase in attacks on humanitarian personnel, including Afghan nationals, in parts of the country,

Noting with concern that the increase in such attacks has limited access to certain areas of Afghanistan and led to inadequate conditions for the delivery of aid for internally displaced persons and vulnerable sectors of the civilian population,

Recognizing that a secure environment is indispensable for the safe and effective delivery and distribution of humanitarian assistance and is a precondition for rehabilitation, reconstruction efforts and long-term development, and welcoming the expansion of the mandate of the International Security Assistance Force to allow it, as resources permit, to support the Afghan Transitional Administration and its successors in the maintenance of security in areas of Afghanistan outside Kabul and its environs, so that the Afghan authorities, as well as the personnel of the United Nations and other international civilian personnel engaged, in particular, in reconstruction and humanitarian efforts, can operate in a secure environment, and to provide security assistance for the performance of other tasks in support of the Bonn Agreement,

⁵ See CD/1478.

Welcoming the ownership of the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts by the Transitional Administration through the National Development Framework and national budget,

Reiterating the importance of a seamless transition from humanitarian relief to rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan, and welcoming the important contribution that the integrated approach of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and of members of the donor community has made in this regard,

Expressing its appreciation to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan for their continued efforts in coordinating, planning and implementing humanitarian and other assistance in cooperation with the Transitional Administration,

Welcoming the return of large numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons, while noting with concern that displacement remains a widespread phenomenon and that the conditions in certain parts of Afghanistan are not yet conducive to safe and sustainable returns to places of origin,

Expressing gratitude to those countries that continue to host Afghan refugee populations, and at the same time calling once again upon all groups to continue to fulfil their obligations for the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons and to allow international access for their protection and care,

Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations system and to all States and international and non-governmental organizations whose international and local staff continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Afghanistan, as well as to the Secretary-General for mobilizing and coordinating the delivery of appropriate humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹
2. *Stresses* that the responsibility for the solution of the humanitarian crisis lies above all with the Afghan people themselves, and urges them to continue their efforts to achieve national reconciliation;
3. *Urges* all Afghan groups to actively support the Transitional Administration in meeting the responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,⁵ to cooperate fully with the mine action programme coordinated by the United Nations and to execute the destruction of all existing stocks of landmines;
4. *Stresses* the coordinating role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan for the United Nations system in ensuring a seamless transition from humanitarian relief to rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan, including the cooperation of the United Nations system with other actors in the international community, in particular with the international financial institutions;
5. *Commends* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the work accomplished;
6. *Welcomes* the recent substantial contributions to the Law and Order Trust Fund, and at the same time regrets that the funding provided to the Afghanistan

Reconstruction Trust Fund and the Law and Order Trust Fund, which were designed to contribute to the mobilization of international support to Afghanistan, remains inadequate;

7. *Urges* the international community to actively participate in and financially contribute to these rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and encourages the international community to channel assistance through the national development budget of the Afghan Transitional Administration and to focus attention on building the capacity of Afghans;

8. *Strongly condemns* the recent deliberate attacks and all other acts of violence and intimidation directed against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, and regrets the loss of life and physical harm suffered among such staff;

9. *Urges* the Transitional Administration and local authorities to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations and humanitarian personnel, as well as their safe and unimpeded access to all affected populations, and to protect the property of the United Nations and of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations;

10. *Notes* the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by Afghanistan on 5 March 2003, and at the same time strongly condemns once again continuing discrimination against women and girls, as well as against persons belonging to ethnic and religious groups, including minorities;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of actively involving all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes;

12. *Reminds* all Afghan groups of their commitment to the Bonn Agreement,¹ and calls upon them to respect fully the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with their obligations under international law, and to protect and promote the equal rights of women and men;

13. *Welcomes* the start of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process by the Transitional Administration and the efforts of the international observer group to verify the fairness of the process, and calls upon the international community to assist the Transitional Administration in these efforts;

14. *Welcomes also* in this regard the accession of the Transitional Administration on 24 September 2003 to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,⁶ and urges Afghan groups to refrain from the recruitment or use of children contrary to international standards, while stressing the importance of demobilizing and reintegrating child soldiers and other war-affected children;

15. *Emphasizes* the necessity of investigating allegations of violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law, including violations committed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, as well as against women and girls, of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to

⁶ Resolution 54/263, annex I.

the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with international law;

16. *Appeals* to the Transitional Administration and the international community to mainstream gender issues into all humanitarian assistance and future rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes and to actively promote the full and equal participation of and benefit to both women and men in respect of those programmes, underlining the importance of a senior gender adviser position in this context;

17. *Calls upon* the Transitional Administration to provide Afghan children with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, recognizing the special needs of girls, and to ensure their full access to those facilities;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, and reminds them of their obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees and the right to seek asylum;

19. *Calls upon* the Transitional Administration, acting with the support of the international community, to create the conditions for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons, welcomes in this respect the initiation of the National Area-Based Development Programme and the National Solidarity Programme, and calls upon the international community to provide adequate funding to these programmes, which, inter alia, assist in the resettlement of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons;

20. *Urges donors* to fulfil promptly the funding commitments made in Tokyo at the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan and reiterated in Dubai on 21 September 2003, and invites them to provide additional resources beyond those pledged so far;

21. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the Transitional Administration and Afghan civil society, all possible and necessary humanitarian, financial, technical and material assistance for the Afghan population, inter alia, a minimal degree of health care and health services in all parts of the country;

22. *Calls upon* the international community to continue and strengthen its coordination of humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, bearing in mind the role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan;

23. *Also calls upon* the international community to respond generously and without delay to the national development budget, as well as long-term interventions towards rehabilitation and reconstruction;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every four months during its fifty-eighth session on the progress of the United Nations and the efforts of his Special Representative to promote peace in Afghanistan, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan".



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
11 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda items 28 and 40 (f)

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian
and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations,
including special economic assistance: emergency
international assistance for peace, normalcy and
reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan**

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela: draft resolution

**Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and
reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation
in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace
and security**

* Reissued for technical reasons.



Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Antigua and Barbuda, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Vanuatu



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
2 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 40 (e)

**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian
and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations,
including special economic assistance: assistance
to the Palestinian people**

**Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland,
Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution**

Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/147 of 16 December 2002, as well as previous resolutions on the question,

Recalling also the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,¹ and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

Gravely concerned at the deterioration in the living conditions of the Palestinian people throughout the occupied territory, which constitutes a mounting humanitarian crisis,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

¹ A/48/486-S/26560, annex.



Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Welcoming also the work of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

Stressing the continued importance of the work of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee in the coordination of assistance to the Palestinian people,

Noting the convening of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting, held in London on 18 and 19 February 2003, to review the state of the Palestinian economy,

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people, and welcoming in this regard the support to the Palestinian Authority by the Task Force on Palestinian Reform established by the Quartet in 2002,

Noting in this regard the active participation of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, appointed by the Secretary-General to the activities of the Quartet of Special Envoys,

Welcoming the endorsement by the Security Council, in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, of the performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,² and stressing the need for its implementation and compliance with its provisions,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,³

Expressing grave concern at the continuation of the recent tragic and violent events that have led to many deaths and injuries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;³
2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Personal Humanitarian Envoy of the Secretary-General on the humanitarian conditions and needs of the Palestinian people;⁴
3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;
4. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;
5. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the

² See S/2003/529, annex.

³ A/58/88 and Corr.1-E/2003/84 and Corr.1.

⁴ Available on the Internet at http://domino.un.org/bertini_rpt.htm.

Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

6. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

7. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with Palestinian priorities set forth by the Palestinian Authority;

8. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

9. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

10. *Stresses* in this context the importance of ensuring the free passage of aid to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

11. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend as rapidly as possible emergency economic and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people to counter the impact of the current crisis;

12. *Stresses* the need to implement the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,⁵ in particular with regard to the full and prompt clearance of Palestinian indirect tax revenues, and welcomes the progress made in this regard;

13. *Suggests* the convening in 2004 of a United Nations-sponsored seminar on assistance to the Palestinian people;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(a) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(b) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

⁵ A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
10 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda item 40 (e)

**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian
and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations,
including special economic assistance: assistance
to the Palestinian people**

**Austria, Bulgaria, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland,
France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia,
Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway,
Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: revised
draft resolution**

Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/147 of 16 December 2002, as well as previous resolutions on the question,

Recalling also the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,¹ and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

Gravely concerned at the deterioration in the living conditions of the Palestinian people throughout the occupied territory, which constitutes a mounting humanitarian crisis,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

¹ A/48/486-S/26560, annex.



Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Welcoming also the work of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

Stressing the continued importance of the work of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee in the coordination of assistance to the Palestinian people,

Noting the convening of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting, held in London on 18 and 19 February 2003, to review the state of the Palestinian economy,

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people, and welcoming in this regard the support to the Palestinian Authority by the Task Force on Palestinian Reform established by the Quartet in 2002,

Noting in this regard the active participation of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority in the activities of the Special Envoys of the Quartet,

Welcoming the endorsement by the Security Council, in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, of the performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,² and stressing the need for its implementation and compliance with its provisions,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,³

Expressing grave concern at the continuation of the recent tragic and violent events that have led to many deaths and injuries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;³
2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Personal Humanitarian Envoy of the Secretary-General on the humanitarian conditions and needs of the Palestinian people;⁴
3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

² See S/2003/529, annex.

³ A/58/88 and Corr. 1-E/2003/84 and Corr. 1.

⁴ Available on the Internet at http://domino.un.org/bertini_rpt.htm.

4. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

6. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

7. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with Palestinian priorities set forth by the Palestinian Authority;

8. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

9. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

10. *Stresses* in this context the importance of ensuring the free passage of aid to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

11. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend as rapidly as possible emergency economic and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people to counter the impact of the current crisis;

12. *Stresses* the need to implement the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,⁵ in particular with regard to the full and prompt clearance of Palestinian indirect tax revenues, and welcomes the progress made in this regard;

13. *Suggests* the convening in 2004 of a United Nations-sponsored seminar on assistance to the Palestinian people;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(a) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

⁵ A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

(b) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".
